

the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 634. An act to provide end user exemptions from certain provisions of the Commodity Exchange Act and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 742. An act to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Commodity Exchange Act to repeal the indemnification requirements for regulatory authorities to obtain access to swap data required to be provided by swaps entities under such Acts; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

H.R. 1038. An act to provide equal treatment for utility special entities using utility operations-related swaps, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

H.R. 1256. An act to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to jointly adopt rules setting forth the application to cross-border swaps transactions of certain provisions relating to swaps that were enacted as part of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

H.R. 2167. An act to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to establish additional requirements to improve the fiscal safety and soundness of the home equity conversion mortgage insurance program; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 2217. An act making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-19. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan urging support for continuation of the STARBASE program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 85

Whereas, STARBASE is a U.S. Department of Defense youth program which targets at-risk students who are historically underrepresented in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Established in 1993, the STARBASE program has grown to 76 locations across 40 states, including three Michigan sites: Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Battle Creek Air National Guard Base, and Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center. The program reached about 3,500 Michigan students in Fiscal Year 2012; and

Whereas, STARBASE provides exceptional, hands-on curriculum to participating schools and students that helps overall comprehension of science and math and improves MEAP scores. It provides an inquiry-based curriculum of experiential, exploratory learning to motivate fifth graders to explore STEM as they continue their education. A more recent addition, STARBASE 2.0, is aimed at middle school students in an after

school program. It offers robotic training opportunities and participation in the Lego League team robotics challenge. STARBASE works with school districts to support their learning objectives and expands relationships with local networks of STEM initiatives and organizations; and

Whereas, The rapid pace of technological change and the globalization of the economy demand that our workforce be literate in science and math. Less than one percent of current elementary students are expected to seek advanced education in the sciences. STARBASE raises student interest and improves their attitudes and confidence in STEM skills: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge the support for continuation of the STARBASE program; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-20. A concurrent resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Ohio urging the Congress of the United States to maintain operation of the 179th Airlift Wing at Mansfield-Lahm Regional Airport in Mansfield, Ohio; to the Committee on Armed Services.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4

Whereas, The United States Air Force 179th Airlift Wing is a military airlift organization assigned to the Ohio Air National Guard and stationed at Mansfield-Lahm Regional Airport; and

Whereas, Due to its superior record, the 179th Airlift Wing received a mission to operate the C-27J Spartan aircraft, a twin turbo-prop aircraft with short takeoff and landing capabilities, ideal for the nation's current military needs and for providing rapid response support for homeland emergencies; and

Whereas, The United States Air Force has published proposed personnel actions associated with plans to retire more than 300 aircraft nationwide, including the C-27J; and

Whereas, The United States Air Force has plans to move personnel positions among states to mitigate the impact of the reductions; and

Whereas, The United States Air National Guard, including the 179th Airlift Wing, is responsible for homeland defense, and the C-27J is an important tool in accomplishing this mission; and

Whereas, The 179th Airlift Wing has made United States Air National Guard history by deploying the C-27J in Afghanistan in Operation Enduring Freedom; and

Whereas, Closing the Air National Guard Station at Mansfield-Lahm, relocating its personnel, and diverting or retiring its C-27J aircraft would create discontinuity and weaken national defense and homeland disaster readiness: Now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Congress of the United States is urged to maintain operation of the 179th Airlift Wing at Mansfield-Lahm Regional Airport to ensure Ohio and our nation will continue to benefit from the unique experience and capabilities of its personnel and the region; and be it further

Resolved, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, to the President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate, to the Speaker and the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, to the members of the Ohio Congressional delegation, and to the news media of Ohio.

POM-21. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan memorializing Congress to pass H.R. 1014 to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to provide that military technicians (dual status) shall be included in military personnel accounts for purposes of any order issued under that Act; to the Committee on the Budget.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 71

Whereas, A federal military technician (dual status) is a federal civilian employee who is assigned to a civilian position as a technician in the administration and training of a Selected Reserve on in the maintenance and repair of supplies or equipment issued to a Selected Reserve or the armed forces. The Selected Reserve include the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard Reserves, and the Army and Air National Guards. The primary mission of a military technician is to provide day-to-day continuity in the training of reserve units, particularly, Army and Air National Guard. More than 58,000 military technicians are currently employed helping to maintain our military readiness; and

Whereas, Military technicians are generally required to maintain membership in the National Guard or Reserve as a condition of their employment. They are required to attend weekend drills and annual training with their reserve unit and military technicians can be involuntarily ordered to active duty just as other members of the Guard or Reserve; and

Whereas, Under sequestration, uniformed military personnel are exempt from furlough days and pay cuts. However, military technicians in the National Guard and the Reserves were not exempted, placing the readiness of our military at home and abroad at risk: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we memorialize Congress to pass H.R. 1014 to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to provide that military technicians (dual status) shall be included in military personnel accounts for purposes of any order issued under that act; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-22. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Louisiana memorializing the Congress of the United States and requesting the Secretary of the United States Department of Commerce to take such action as necessary relative to red snapper season; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 25

Whereas, it is the responsibility of the National Marine Fisheries Service, an agency in the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, through the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council, to manage and regulate marine species located in the Gulf of Mexico; and

Whereas, such management and regulation includes a determination of the sustainability of each species and preservation of the sustainability through the setting of take limits, individual fishing quotas, and opening and closing seasons; and

Whereas, on March 25, 2013, a temporary emergency rule was published in the Federal Register that gives the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries Services the authority to set separate closure dates for the recreational red snapper season in federal waters off the individual Gulf of Mexico states; and

Whereas, the closure dates will depend on whether state regulations are consistent with federal regulations for the recreational red snapper season length or bag limit; and

Whereas, the federal recreational season for Gulf of Mexico red snapper begins June 1 each year with a two-fish bag limit and the length of the season is determined by the amount of the quota, the average weight of fish landed, and the estimated catch rates over time; and

Whereas, since NOAA Fisheries is responsible for ensuring that the entire recreational harvest, including harvest in state waters, does not exceed the recreational quota, then if states establish a longer season or a larger bag limit for state waters than the federal regulations allow in federal waters, the federal season must be adjusted to account for the additional harvest expected in state waters; and

Whereas, if all states were to implement consistent regulations, the 2013 recreational season would be twenty-eight days, assuming the recreational quota is increased to 4.145 million pounds through separate rule-making; and

Whereas, in addition to Louisiana, the states of Texas and Florida have indicated to NOAA Fisheries that they will implement inconsistent red snapper regulations for their state waters; and

Whereas, without this emergency rule, the 2013 federal season would be reduced to twenty-two days to compensate for that additional expected harvest; and

Whereas, this emergency rule allows NOAA Fisheries to calculate the recreational red snapper fishing season separately in the exclusive economic zone off each state to account for any inconsistency of regulations in state waters; and

Whereas, based on the expected regulations for Texas, Louisiana, and Florida, the preliminary season lengths would be as follows: Texas, twelve days; Louisiana, none days; Mississippi and Alabama, twenty-eight days; and Florida, twenty-one days; and

Whereas, on March 23, 2013, Louisiana implemented weekend-only recreational red snapper season that will end on September 30, with a recreational bag limit of three fish per day at sixteen-inch minimum; and

Whereas, the regional administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service's Southeast Regional Office and his scientists can provide information on the following issues: (1) emergency rule on the recreational closure authority specific to federal waters off individual states for the recreational red snapper component of the Gulf of Mexico reef fish fishery; (2) methodology for determination of the length, allocations, and quotas for the red snapper season; (3) plans for the future allocations and quotas of red snapper; (4) update on the regional and Gulf of Mexico red snapper stock assessments on natural and artificial habitats; (5) relationship of size of quota to recovery of red snapper fisheries; (6) general conditions and health of red snapper fisheries and projections for future; and (7) requirements in order for Louisiana to get additional allocations or quotas based on Louisiana's management and growth of the red snapper fisheries: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Legislature of Louisiana memorializes the Congress of the United States and requests the secretary of the United States Department of Commerce to take such action as necessary to require the regional administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service's Southeast Regional Office and his scientists to attend a meeting of the Louisiana Senate Committee on Natural Resources, on a date that is convenient for the parties during the month of April or the first

week of May, to provide information on the red snapper season, and be it further

Resolved, that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the secretary of the United States Senate and the clerk of the United States House of Representatives, to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States Congress, to the secretary of the United States Department of Commerce, and the regional administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service's Southeast Regional Office.

POM-23. A concurrent resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Missouri supporting continued and increased development and delivery of oil derived from North American oil reserves to United States refineries; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 19

Whereas, the United States relies—and will continue to rely for many years—on gasoline, diesel, and jet fuel, as well as renewable and alternative sources of energy; and

Whereas, in order to fuel our economy, the United States will need more oil and natural gas while also requiring additional alternative energy sources; and

Whereas, the United States accounts for 20% of world energy consumption and is the world's largest petroleum consumer. The United States consumes more than 15 million barrels of oil each day, with forecast suggesting that this will not change for decades; and

Whereas, even with new technology, oil discoveries, alternative fuels, and conservation efforts, the United States will remain dependent on imported energy for decades to come. A secure supply of crude oil is not only needed for Americans to continue to heat their homes, cook their food, and drive their vehicles, but to allow the United States economy to thrive and grow free from the potential threats and disruptions of crude oil supply from less secure parts of the world; and

Whereas, the growing production of conflict-free oil from Canada's oil sands and the Bakken formation in Saskatchewan, Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota can replace crude imported from countries that do not share American values, but additional pipeline capacity to refineries in the United States Midwest and Gulf Coast is required; and

Whereas, increasing energy imports from Canada makes sense for the United States. Canada is a trusted neighbor with a stable democratic government, strong environmental standards equal to that of the United States, and some of the most stringent human rights and worker protection laws in the world; and

Whereas, improvements in production technology have reduced the carbon footprint of Canadian oil sands development by 26% on a per barrel basis since 1990. Oil sands production accounts for 6.9% of Canada's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and 0.1% (1/100th) of global GHG emissions. Total emissions from Canada's oil sands sector was 48 megatons in 2010, equivalent to 0.5% of United States GHG emissions. Oil sands crude has similar CO₂ emissions to other heavy oils and is 6% more carbon-intensive than the average crude refined in the United States on a wells-to-wheels basis; and

Whereas, the 57 refineries in the Gulf Coast region provide a total refining capacity of approximately 8.7 million barrels per day (bpd), or half of United States refining capacity. In 2011, these refineries imported approximately 5 million bpd of crude oil from more than 30 countries, with the top four

suppliers being Mexico (22%), Saudi Arabia (17%), Venezuela (16%), and Nigeria (9%). Imports from Mexico and Venezuela are declining as production from those countries decreases and supply contracts expire. Once completed, TransCanada's Keystone XL Pipeline and Gulf Coast Expansion projects could displace roughly 40% of the oil the United States currently imports from the Persian Gulf and Venezuela; and

Whereas, the Keystone XL Pipeline project has been subject to the most thorough public consultation process of any proposed United States pipeline, and the subject of multiple environmental impacts statements and several United States Department of State studies which have concluded that it poses the least impact to the environment and is much safer than other modes of transporting crude oil; and

Whereas, the original Keystone Pipeline, which spans across the northern part of Missouri, supplies over 500,000 barrels of North American crude oil to American refiners in the Midwest. When completed, the Keystone XL Pipeline will carry 830,000 barrels of North American crude oil to American refineries in the Gulf Coast region which will make its way back to Missouri in the form of gasoline, diesel, and jet fuel; and

Whereas, the Keystone XL Pipeline project will create approximately 9,000 construction jobs. The Gulf Coast Expansion project is a \$2.3 billion project that has created approximately 4,000 construction jobs. Combined, these projects support yet another 7,000 manufacturing jobs. 75% of the pipe used to build the Keystone XL Pipeline in the United States will come from North American mills, including half made by United States workers. Goods for the pipeline valued at approximately \$800 million have already been sourced from United States manufacturers: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the members of the House of Representatives of the Ninety-seventh General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate concurring therein, hereby strongly:

(1) Support continued and increased development and delivery of oil derived from North American oil reserves to United States refineries;

(2) Urge the United States Congress to support continued and increased development and delivery of oil from Canada to the United States;

(3) Urge the President of the United States to support the continued and increased importation of oil derived from the Bakken formation in Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota, as well as Canadian oil sands;

(4) Urge the United States Secretary of State to approve the newly routed pipeline application from TransCanada to reduce dependence on unstable governments, create new jobs, improve our national security, and strengthen ties with an important ally; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for the President of the United States, the President Pro Tem of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of the Missouri Congressional delegation.

Adam Crumbliss, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives, and Terry L. Spieler, Secretary of the Senate, do hereby certify that the aforementioned is a true and correct copy of House Concurrent Resolution No. 19, adopted by the House of Representatives on March 14, 2013, and concurred in the Senate on April 17, 2013.

POM-24. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana

memorializing the United States Congress to take whatever actions necessary to encourage and support reunification of Ireland; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 21

Whereas, Ireland is an ancient and distinct land, an island-nation artificially rendered in two in 1922; partitioned by the Government of Ireland Act as an independent Irish state and Northern Ireland which remained a dominion of the United Kingdom; and

Whereas, the partition divided the nation into Northern Ireland, which is composed of six counties and is one of the four constituent countries of the British Crown, and Southern Ireland, which consists of the remaining twenty-six counties and which eventually became the Republic of Ireland in 1949; and

Whereas, the Belfast Agreement, also known as the Good Friday Agreement, was ratified by the Irish and British governments on April 10, 1998, as was successfully negotiated with support from the United States; and

Whereas, the Good Friday Agreement represents a fundamental political advance that created a framework and a mechanism for further political development toward the final resolution of the issue and reunification; and

Whereas, today with self determination, the Irish Republic enjoys an unencumbered economic future as a viable member of the European Union; and

Whereas, the time has come to bring about a seamless resolution of the partition of Ireland in favor of a more united, sovereign nation that guarantees equal rights and equal opportunities for all of its citizens; and

Whereas, in every area that affects the overall well-being of the Irish people, including their economy, education, health, governance, and social interaction, a united Ireland proffers the best opportunity for peace and prosperity for a divided Irish population; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana memorializes the Congress of the United States to take whatever actions necessary to encourage and support the reunification of Ireland, and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the secretary of the United States Senate and the clerk of the United States House of Representatives and to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States Congress.

POM-25. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana memorializing the Congress of the United States to enact legislation to provide additional funding for research in order to find a treatment and a cure for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 14

Whereas, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or ALS, is more commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease; and

Whereas, ALS is a fatal neurodegenerative disease characterized by degeneration of cell bodies of the lower motor neurons in the gray matter of the anterior horns of the spinal cord; and

Whereas, the initial symptom of ALS is usually weakness of the skeletal muscles, especially those of the extremities; and

Whereas, as ALS progresses, the patient typically experiences difficulty in swallowing, talking, and breathing; and

Whereas, ALS eventually causes muscles to atrophy and the patient becomes a functional quadriplegic; and

Whereas, ALS does not affect mental capacity of the patient, such that the patient

remains alert and aware of surroundings and aware of the loss of motor functions and the inevitable outcome of continued deterioration and death; and

Whereas, on average, patients diagnosed with ALS survive only two to five years from the time of diagnosis; and

Whereas, despite the catastrophic consequences of a diagnosis of ALS, the disease currently has no known cause, means of protection, or cure; and

Whereas, research indicates that military veterans are at a sixty percent greater risk of developing ALS than those who have not served in the military; and

Whereas, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs has promulgated regulations to establish a presumption of service connection for ALS thereby presuming that the development of ALS was incurred or aggravated by a veteran's service in the military; and

Whereas, a national ALS registry, administered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is currently identifying cases of ALS in the United States and may become the largest ALS research project ever undertaken; and

Whereas, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month increases the awareness of the circumstances of living with ALS and acknowledges the terrible impact this disease has not only on the patient, but also on the family and community of anyone receiving such a diagnosis; and

Whereas, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month also increases awareness of research being done to eradicate this dire disease; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize May 2013 as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month, and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the Congress of the United States to enact legislation to provide additional funding for research in order to find a treatment and a cure for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the secretary of the United States Senate and the clerk of the United States House of Representatives and to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States Congress.

POM-26. A resolution adopted by the Georgia State Senate requesting that Georgia's Congressional delegation, Congress as a whole, and President Obama immediately resolve our national debt crisis with a bipartisan, balanced, comprehensive, long-term solution; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 423

Whereas, our national debt is more than 70 percent of our economy (\$11.1 trillion) and is on track to exceed 100 percent of the economy next decade; and

Whereas, rising national debt threatens to stunt the strength of our economy and eventually lead to an economic crisis; and

Whereas, our national debt threatens the solvency of Social Security and medicare; and

Whereas, if Congress and President Obama fail to avoid the looming fiscal cliff and find a comprehensive solution to our national debt, Georgia could lose up to 50,000 jobs due to federal spending cuts; and

Whereas, continued missed opportunities for resolution and successive manufactured crises add to economic uncertainty, preventing business development and investment; and

Whereas, failing to resolve our national debt crisis imperils the economic and financial security of future generations; and

Whereas, smart and gradual debt reduction can reverse all of the negative economic and generational consequences of elevated and rising debt; and

Whereas, a credible plan could help strengthen our fragile economic recovery by improving confidence and reducing uncertainty; and

Whereas, fixing the debt could restore public faith in Washington's ability to solve problems; and

Whereas, our national debt can only be resolved through a bipartisan, comprehensive solution that reins in spending, raises revenues, and reforms entitlements: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this body request that Georgia's Congressional delegation, Congress as a whole, and President Obama immediately resolve our national debt crisis with a bipartisan, balanced, comprehensive, long-term solution, and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Georgia's Congressional delegation, all Congressional members, and President Obama.

POM-27. A resolution adopted by the Legislature of Rockland County, New York, calling upon the Federal Emergency Management Agency to expedite the release of advisory base flood elevations for Rockland County; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

POM-28. A resolution adopted by the Pecos River Commission requesting that the United States Congress reauthorize the Water Resources Development Act of 2007, Section 5056, and appropriate sufficient funds to carry out work related to the legislation; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

POM-29. A resolution adopted by the Legislature of Rockland County, New York, urging the United States Congress to pass S. 84 and H.R. 377—Paycheck Fairness Act of 2013; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

POM-30. A resolution adopted by the City Council of Seaside, California expressing its support to the President of the United States, the Senate, and the House of Representatives, for comprehensive immigration reform and urging action to adopt comprehensive immigration legislation; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

POM-31. A resolution adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey of the State of California urging the United States Supreme Court to affirm the constitutionality of the Voting Rights Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

POM-32. A resolution adopted by the Pecos River Commission requesting that Congress fully fund the National Streamflow Information Program (NSIP) gages associated with the Pecos River Basin and the U.S. Geological Survey placing a priority on funding these gages under NSIP; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. SCHUMER, from the Committee on Rules and Administration:

Report to accompany S. Res. 64, An original resolution authorizing expenditures by committees of the Senate for the period March 1, 2013, through September 30, 2013 (Rept. No. 113-41).

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment:

S. 579. A bill to direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to obtain observer status for Taiwan at the triennial